

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)Applicant(s): **GARY ANDERSON**

Docket No.

ANDG 102

Serial No.

10/670,939

Filing Date

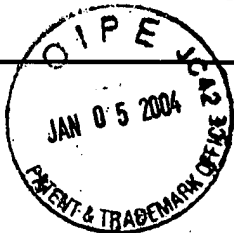
SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

Examiner

Group Art Unit

2837

Invention:

STRING INSTRUMENT CHINREST PAD SYSTEMI hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***(Identify type of correspondence)*

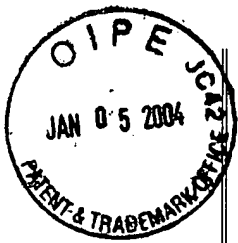
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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dean A. Craine", written over a horizontal line.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GARY ANDERSON
Title: STRING INSTRUMENT CHINREST PAD SYSTEM
Serial No: 10/670,939
Filing Date: SEPTEMBER 25, 2003
Group Art Unit: 2837
Attorney Docket No: ANDG 102
Date: December 31, 2003

Mail Stop: Patent Applications
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

In compliance with Applicant's and his attorney's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, the Applicant does hereby submit the following Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO - 1449, and copies of the references listed thereon.

A patent search was manually conducted for the invention described in the above-referenced patent application. In the course of the search, no patents were found for an apparatus that has the same structural features or that operates in the same manner such as the invention listed above. The following eleven (11) patents, however, were noted as being of interest and are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention as references AA - AK. The significance of each listed reference is as follows:

1 AA. Reference U.S. Patent No. 4,534,259 (Wolf) discloses a chin rest for a string
2 instrument, e.g. a violin or fiddle, that is equipped, in its chin rest plate, with an opening that
3 enables a better conformance of the chin rest to the human contour and that is possibly held
4 in pivotable fashion to the body of the string instrument and, therewith, can follow the
5 pivoting motions of the head of the person using the instrument. Furthermore, the chin rest is
6 combined with a so-called damper support.

7 AB. Reference U.S. Patent No. 2,486,646 (Halko) discloses an invention to
8 provide a rest for a violin, which will be adjustable to height and lateral movement; one
9 which will permit the violin to be held in position without strain and which will enable a
10 certain freedom of head and neck movement, which will obviously add considerably to the
11 comfort of the user in avoiding neck stiffness. A further and very important object is to
12 provide a rest, which will prevent the dampening of tone of the instrument, which results
13 from supporting the body of the violin on the fabric of the garment worn by the player.

14 AC. Reference U.S. Patent No. 2,223,221 (Miranda) discloses a chin rest for a
15 violin or viola that uses an arm that includes a hook member that engages the rounded edge
16 of the instrument.

17 AD. Reference U.S. Patent No. 1,821,811 (Mai) discloses a chin rest that uses a
18 turnbuckle with threaded rods that are curved to engage a base plate. The base plate is
19 designed to touch only the outer edge of the instrument.

20 AE. Reference U.S. Patent No. 1,204,642 (Becker) discloses a chin rest for violins
21 that uses a padded head placed along the edge of the violin. The chin rest includes a
22 turnbuckle with a threaded rod that is curved inward so that the turnbuckle may be spaced

1 apart on the sides of the violin.

2 AF. Reference U.S. Patent No. 931,251 (Beisheim) discloses a typical chinrest for
3 a violin that uses an upper chinrest proper, and a turnbuckle with lower threaded rods having
4 a lower edge that presses against the outer edge of the instrument.

5 AG. Reference U.S. Patent No. 439,199 (Schuster) discloses a chinrest for violins
6 that uses two brackets, "A" and "B". Brackets A and B appear to engage the outer edges of
7 the instrument.

8 AH. Reference U.S. Patent No. 213,804 (Barnes) discloses an adjustable chinrest
9 with a threaded intermediate member "E" attached to the threaded rod "B" that extends
10 upward from the L-shaped clip "K".

11 AI. Reference U.S. Patent No. 160,136 (Albert) discloses a chinrest for violins
12 with an adjustable bar "O" with a lower lip "F" that bears against the outer lip of the
13 instrument.

14 AJ. Reference U.S. Patent No. 104,405 (Avery) discloses a chinrest with a curved
15 standard "B" that matches the curvature of the instrument. A hook is formed on the distal
16 edge of the standard to engage the lower outer edge of the instrument.

17 AK. Reference U.S. Patent No. 6,193 (White & Watson) discloses a chinrest that
18 consists of the arrangement for fastening and tightening the chinrest to the violin and viola.

19 The Applicant and his attorney submit that the above-cited references taken alone or
20 in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. None of the
21 references disclose or claim a flexible pad used with a standard, turnbuckle style violin
22 chinrest that partially engages the raised outer edge of the instrument and provides a flat
23 surface on upon which the top and bottom brackets used with the chinrest may engage. By

1 engaging the outer edge, the pad resists inward movement on the top and bottom surfaces of
2 the instrument. None of the prior art discloses a pad that sufficiently extends rearward from
3 the outer surface of the instrument to prevent the turn bucket and tie rods from contacting the
4 end surface of the instrument. In the preferred embodiment, the top pad includes a relatively
5 flat top surface over which the top bracket is placed. The bottom pad includes a relatively,
6 diagonally aligned bottom surface over which the bottom bracket is placed.

7 The listed references relate only to the general field of the disclosure and do not
8 constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims; they are
9 cited only as constituting the closest art of which the Applicant and his attorney are aware.

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11 Respectfully submitted,

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13 DEAN A. CRAINE

14 Reg. No. 33,591
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) ANDG 102		Application Number 10/670,939	
				Applicant(s) GARY ANDERSON			
				Filing Date SEPTEMBER 25, 2003		Group Art Unit 2837	

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 3542
 PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
AA.	4,534,259	08/13/1985	WOLF	84	279	01/28/1983	
AB.	2,486,646	11/01/1949	HALKO	84	279	12/08/1947	
AC.	2,223,221	11/26/1940	MIRANDA	84	279	11/12/1939	
AD.	1,821,811	09/01/1931	MAI			12/20/1928	
AE.	1,204,642	11/14/1916	BECKER			05/20/1913	
AF.	931,251	08/17/1909	BEISHEIM			04/30/1909	
AG.	439,199	10/28/1890	SCHUSTER			10/03/1889	
AH.	213,804	04/01/1879	BARNES			01/10/1879	
AI.	160,136	02/23/1875	ALBERT			01/13/1875	
AJ.	104,405	06/21/1870	AVERY				
AK.	6,193	12/22/1874	WHITE & WATSON			11/20/1874	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation		
						YES	NO	

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.